REMARKS

The interview with examiner Hanh V. Tran on 14 June 2006 is acknowledged with appreciation. The examiner's interview summary is accurate as to what transpired at the interview.

The office action rejects claims 1-17 and 20-23 over U.S. Patent No. 6,948,691 to Brock et al. Claims 18-19 and 26-27 are rejected over Brock in view of Cheng (U.S. Patent No. 6,588,866). Claims 24-25 and 28-30 are rejected over Brock, Cheng and Klakovich (U.S. Patent No. 3,133,768).

Claims 18, 20 and 23 have been amended to define a slot-closing position adapted to retain at the same time the mounting post in the slot and the retention aperture. This change was agreed to at the interview to clarify that the stated slot-closing position.

The rejection of claims 1-17 and 20-23 asserts that Brock et al. discloses "movement of the mounting post into the enlarged-diameter entry and exit portion of the keyhole-shaped slot and a slot-closing position receiving the mounting post in the retention aperture..." (office action at page 3, lines 2-4).

As discussed at the interview, Brock et al. does not disclose "the mounting post in the retention aperture." Brock et al. describes mounting pins 252 inserted into slots 254 and at column 7, lines 25-48 states

> [a] lock is preferably provided at one of the slots 254 of each of the telescoping portions 14 to limit longitudinal movement of the chassis 250 with respect to the slides 10. With reference to FIGS. 15-17, in the illustrated embodiment, the lock comprises a lock arm 256 that is attached at one end to the telescoping portion 14 of the slide 10 by rivets 258. A raised portion 263 is provided at the other end of the lock arm 256. The raised portion 263 preferably defines an inclined surface that extends into the slot and towards the rear of the lock arm 256.

> When the chassis 250 is moved rearwardly with respect to the slides 10, the head portions 255 of the mounting pins 252 ride over the inclined surfaces of the raised portions 263 of the lock arms 256. The lock arms 256 flex outwardly to allow passage of the mounting pins 252 in the associated slots 254. When the mounting pins reach the ends of the longitudinally extending portions 262 of the slots 254, the raised portions 260 [sic, 263] of the locks 256 prevent passage of the mounting pins 252 in the opposite direction, thereby locking the chassis 250 in place. To remove the chassis 250, the ends of the locks 256 opposite the rivets 258 must be pulled outwardly to allow passage of the mounting pins 252 in the slots 254. (Emphasis added.)

Thus, as best seen in Figs. 16 and 17 of Brock et al. lock arm 256 with raised portion 263 limits movement, but there is no retention aperture in the lock arm and there is no post retainer coupled to the base to move relative to the load-carrying slide between a slot-opening position and a slot-closing position as recited in claim 1.

Brock et al.'s drawing at Fig. 17 shows the raised portion 263 abutting head portion 255 of pin 252 to prevent removal of the pin 252 from the slot 254. That is, the portion of the lock arm 256 at the raised portion 263 blocks exit from slot 254 and there is no retention aperture in Brock's post retainer (lock arm 256). Each of claims 1-17 and 20-23 describe the mounting post goes into the slot and retention aperture. None of the prior art of record disclose, teach or suggest this feature.

Claims 18-19 and 26-27 avoid rejection over Brock et al. for the same reason as discussed above with respect to claims 1-17 and 20-23 and Cheng does not make up for the deficiency in Brock et al. The rejection of claims 24-25 and 28-30 over Brock, Cheng and Klakovich is directed to dependent claims and avoids the rejection on this same basis.

In view of the above, it is submitted that all of the claims (Nos. 1-30) are in condition for allowance and such action is, respectfully, requested.

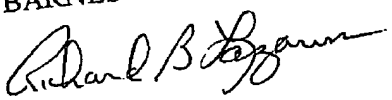
If there is any issue remaining to be resolved, the examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned so that resolution can be promptly effected.

U.S. Application No. 10/692,839

It is requested that, if necessary to effect a timely response, this paper be considered as a Petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response with the fee for such extensions and shortages in other fees, being charged, or any overpayment in fees being credited, to the Account of Barnes & Thornburg, Deposit Account No. 10-0435 (3467-72965).

Respectfully submitted,

BARNES & THORNBURG LLP



Richard B. Lazarus
Reg. No. 48,215
Tel. No. (202) 371-6348

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